

4.2.4.1 Land Resources

No Action Alternative

Under this alternative, Pantex Pu material (which consists entirely of pits) would continue to be stored at the current storage location in Zone 4 Magazines pursuant to DNFSB Recommendation 94-1. The ongoing (no new action) activities conform with present and future land-use plans, policies, and controls. A description of No Action facilities and processes is presented in Section 2.2.4. Therefore, no effects to land resources would be anticipated at Pantex beyond those of existing and future activities that are independent of the proposed action.

Upgrade Alternative

Preferred Alternative: Upgrade With Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site Plutonium Pits Subalternative

Modify Existing Zone 12 South Facilities for Continued Plutonium Storage

The Pu storage upgrade at Pantex consists of existing facilities and the expansion of one facility and associated ramp within Zone 12 South to accommodate Pantex Pu and RFETS pit material. Land area requirements would be 0.18 ha (0.45 acres) during construction of which 0.1 ha (0.25 acres) would be used during operations. However, the facility would be situated on previously disturbed land. Buffer zone distances would be based on technical, safety, and security considerations.

Land Use. Construction and operation of the proposed upgrade would conform with the current *Pantex Site Development Plan*, which includes as part of its master plan the Fissile Materials Storage Facility in Zone 12 (PX DOE 1995g:8,11). The proposal would not change existing land use. As discussed in Section 4.2.4.8, immigration of workers would be anticipated only for operations. However, since projected housing vacancies would be sufficient to accommodate the slight population growth, no indirect effects to offsite lands would be expected.

The storage upgrade would not affect other site land uses. As discussed in Section 3.5.1, there would be no onsite effects to prime farmland. The upgrade would not be in conflict with the city of Amarillo's land-use plans, policies, and controls since they do not address Pantex.

Visual Resources. The proposed visual environment would be compatible with the existing industrialized landscape character. The current VRM Class 5 designation of Zone 12 would remain.

Upgrade Without Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site Plutonium or Los Alamos National Laboratory Plutonium Subalternative

Modify Existing Zone 12 South Facilities for Continued Plutonium Storage

The Upgrade Without RFETS Pu or LANL Pu Subalternative is similar to the Upgrade With RFETS Pu Pits Subalternative because the modified facilities in Zone 12 South would be designed with adequate capacity to store all of the RFETS Pu pits. No additional resources would be required and therefore the impacts would be the same.

Upgrade With All or Some Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site Plutonium and Los Alamos National Laboratory Plutonium Subalternative

Modify Existing Zone 12 South Facilities for Continued Plutonium Storage

Land area requirements during construction and operation for the proposed Pu storage facility at Pantex with all or some RFETS Pu and LANL Pu would be equal to that for Upgrade With RFETS Pu Pits Subalternative because the upgrade without would accommodate both subalternatives. Direct and indirect effects on land resources during construction and operation would be equal to that for Upgrade With RFETS Pu Pits Subalternative. [Text deleted.]

Consolidation Alternative

Construct New and Modify Existing Zone 12 South Facilities

This option would include the modification of existing buildings and construction of a new facility in Zone 12 South. Land area requirements would be 60.5 ha (149 acres) during construction of which 58 ha (143 acres) would be used during operations. However, the construction laydown area and storage facility would be situated on previously disturbed land and would not create any newly disturbed area. A buffer zone would be provided between facilities and the Pantex boundary.

Land Use. Construction and operation of this storage upgrade would be consistent with the site master plan as included within the current *Pantex Site Development Plan*, which identifies a Fissile Materials Storage Facility in Zone 12 (PX DOE 1995g:8,11). [Text deleted.] As discussed in Section 4.2.4.8, vacancies in the projected housing stock would be sufficient to accommodate the slight population growth due to the in-migration of construction and operational workers. Therefore, no indirect effects to offsite land use would be anticipated.

Construction and operation of this storage upgrade option would not affect other site land uses. There would be no onsite effects to prime farmland. This upgrade option would not be in conflict with the city of Amarillo's land-use plans, policies, and controls since they do not address Pantex.

Visual Resources. [Text deleted.] The proposed activities would be compatible with the existing industrialized landscape character. The current VRM Class 5 designation of Zone 12 would not change.

Construct New Plutonium Storage Facility

All the Pu would be stored at a new storage facility to be constructed in the north portion of Zone 12 South at Pantex. Land area requirements would be 58.5 ha (144 acres) during construction of which 56 ha (138 acres) would be used during operations. However, the construction laydown area and stand-alone storage facility would be entirely situated on previously disturbed land and would not create any newly disturbed area. A buffer zone would be provided between operations and the Pantex site boundary. Pu storage in existing DOE storage facilities would be phased out.

Land Use. The proposal would conform with the current *Pantex Site Development Plan*, which includes the Fissile Materials Storage Facility in Zone 12 (PX DOE 1995g:8,11) as part of its master plan. [Text deleted.] As discussed in Section 4.2.4.8, available projected housing vacancies would accommodate the population growth attributed to the in-migration of construction and operational workers. Therefore, no indirect effects to offsite land use would be anticipated.

Construction and operation would not affect other site land uses or prime farmland. This upgrade option would be consistent with the city of Amarillo's land-use plans, policies, and controls.

Visual Resources. [Text deleted.] The proposed visual environment would be compatible with the existing industrialized landscape character. The current VRM Class 5 designation of Zone 12 would remain.

Collocation Alternative

Construct New Plutonium and Highly Enriched Uranium Storage Facilities

The collocation alternative would store Pu and HEU within the scope of this PEIS at a new facility to be constructed in Zone 12 South at Pantex. Pu and HEU storage in existing DOE facilities would be phased out. Land area requirements would be 89.5 ha (221 acres) during construction of which 87 ha (215 acres) would be used during operations. However, the construction laydown area and storage facility would be situated on previously disturbed land and would not create any newly disturbed area. A buffer zone would be provided between facilities and the Pantex site boundary.

Land Use. Construction and operation would conform with the current *Pantex Site Development Plan*, which includes the Fissile Materials Storage Facility in Zone 12 (PX DOE 1995g:8,11) as part of its master plan. [Text deleted.] As discussed in Section 4.2.4.8, projected housing vacancies would be sufficient to accommodate the increase in demand for housing units due to the in-migration of construction and operational workers. Therefore, no indirect effects to offsite land use would be anticipated.

Construction and operation would not affect other site land uses or prime farmland. This Collocation Alternative would be consistent with the city of Amarillo's land-use plans, policies, and controls.

Visual Resources. Potential impacts from construction and operation to visual resources would be similar to those of the Consolidation Alternative.

Subalternative Not Including Strategic Reserve and Weapons Research and Development Materials

Under this subalternative, land effects during construction and operation would be almost the same in extent and magnitude to the No Action Alternative, Upgrade Alternative, Consolidation Alternative, and Collocation Alternative because the facility would be almost the same. However, because the smaller quantity of material would require smaller facilities, it is likely that less land area would be disturbed during construction and used during operations. [Text deleted.]

Phaseout

No new construction or upgrade of existing facilities would occur under phaseout of the Pu storage mission. Pantex Pu material would be moved out of Pantex to the consolidation or collocation site or disposition. Potential impacts to visual resources could occur if facilities are not maintained.

[Text deleted.]